

spastics NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

June, 1970

New Series, Price 6d.

Spastics Week: It's all systems go for success

'62 Club trio seek endurance record

ABOUT 2,500 miles of hard road will lay ahead of three prominent '62 Club members next month. They will set out in a Ford Zodiac to set up an endurance record for driving non-stop round the coast of England and Wales.

The Guinness Book of Records has agreed to include the event if it is completed satisfactorily.

The three drivers who will make the record attempt are David Branch, Assistant Clubs Officer for The Spastics Society, Roger Holt, Chairman of the London '62 Club, and Owen Parry, Chairman of the Watford '62 Club.

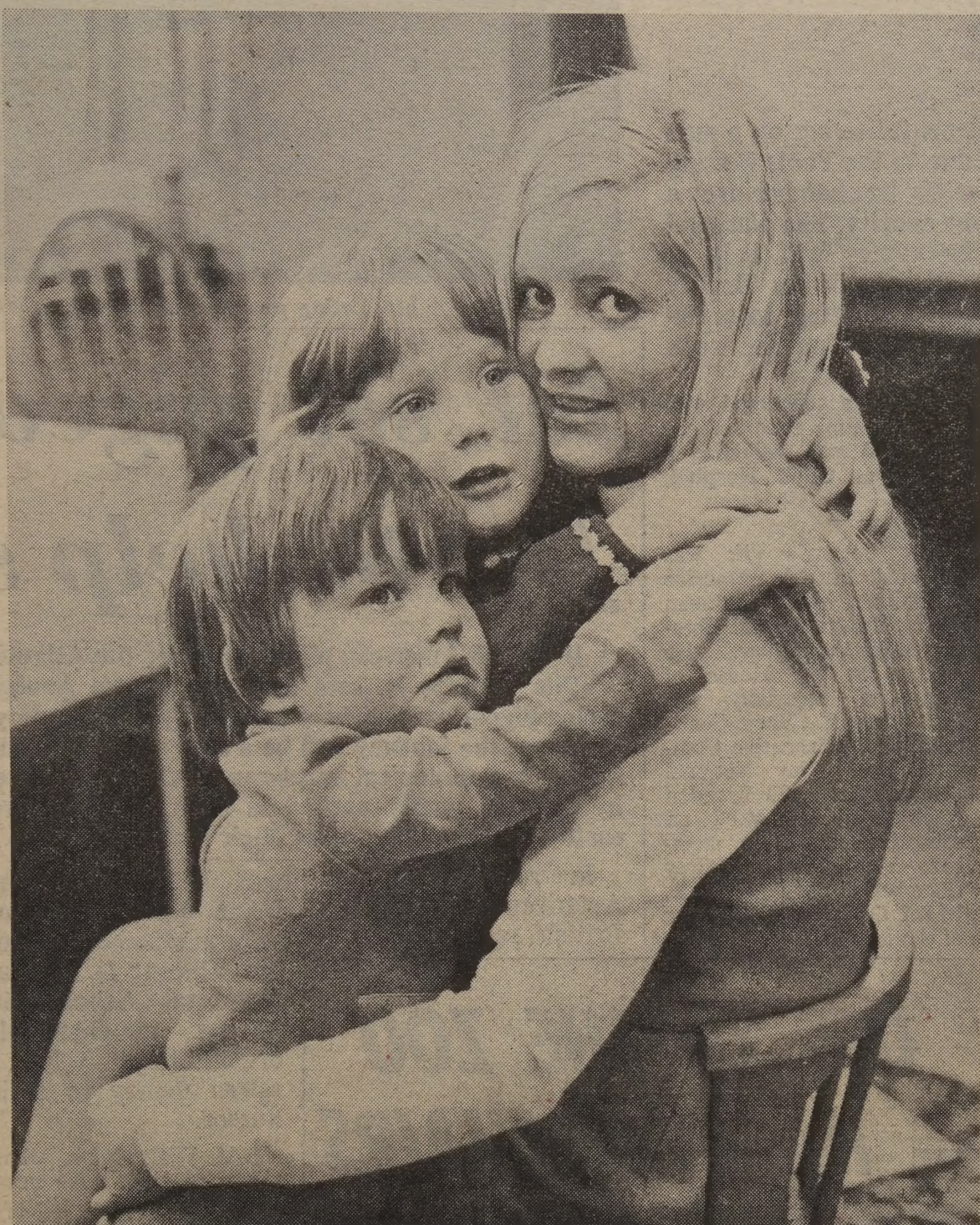
Said David, who will lead the expedition: "I think this is the first time anyone has tried to set up an endurance record for driving round the England and Wales coastline. It's certainly the first time that spastics have attempted it."

"We shall share the driving and navigation is rotation. One will drive, one will navigate and the third will sleep."

"The car will be highly decorated with Spastics Society publicity posters and so on. We hope the drive will create a lot of interest for Spastics Week. We shall be passing through a lot of crowded seaside resorts, so we should attract quite a lot of attention."

"I expect the journey to take about five days. We shall only make brief stops to refuel and for publicity purposes."

Commercial companies have given the scheme generous support. Fords has lent a car for the operation and Shell has agreed to help with fuel.



Jane Trushell, a Scottish contestant in the National Charity Queen and Princess Contest, with Elaine Gillespie (left) and Muriel McCalmin, two children from Corseford School for Spastics, where she works as a classroom

assistant. The school is run by the Scottish Council for the Care of Spastics, which Jane has naturally nominated at her charity for the contest. More about the Queen and Princess Contest on Page 7.

(Photo by courtesy of Daily Record, Glasgow)

THOUSANDS of voluntary workers are making their final plans for Spastics Week 1970, the mammoth fund-raising event which will be held nationally from July 5th to 11th. There will be hundreds of events in cities, towns and villages—flag days, sponsored walks and swims, marathons of all kinds—and door knocks galore.

One of the major national events will be the two-day Spastics Games at Stoke Mandeville Stadium where Mr. Edward Heath, M.P., Leader of the Opposition, will present awards to the spastic athletes. In a letter to the Society, Mr. Heath says:

"For many years I have taken note of the first-class work being undertaken by The Spastics Society. So much has been done and with greater resources so much more could be done. I am delighted to have been invited to present the awards to such skilled and courageous sportsmen."

Mr. Heath will visit the Games on their second day, July 5th and will see a horse riding display by spastic children, and wheelchair races and wheelchair basketball as well as athletic events. Among the major awards he will present, are cups for the competitors who have had to try hardest to overcome their handicaps to take part in the Games.

Flag days will be a big feature of the week, and the flags themselves are newsworthy affairs — bright, colourful and challenging with their attractive designs — and pins are a thing of the past!

The new flags are self-adhesive stick ons. Naturally the special adhesive backing will not harm

clothes, but if the buyer feels in a decorative mood, they can be stuck on cars, handbags, letterheads, windows, brief cases . . . anywhere the "message" can be seen.

The flag day in Greater London will be on July 11th, and 15 Local Groups

DON'T forget to order extra copies of Spastics News for Spastics Week, and let the newspaper spread the message of the nation-wide work for spastics.

Please place your order for the July issue—as soon as possible—by writing to: The Circulation Department, Spastics News, The Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, London, W.1.

in the London area are joining with Headquarters to make this a massive fund raiser. Sites include West End shopping areas and Railway and Underground stations, and collectors will have the novel support this year of Bartholomew Proton X12 — more about him on the left.

There will also be a flag day in the City of London on July 10th, the day before Saturday's Greater London flag day. This is because the City has its quietest day on a Saturday, and Friday is the ideal day to collect from City workers.

In addition, there will be no less than 39 flag days outside London in and around the Week, and Local Groups are making every effort to recruit the maximum number of collectors.

Mr. Kevin Finucane, the Society's flag day organiser told Spastics News: "I know that some people are a bit nervous of collecting, but in fact it is very interesting. People talk to you and tell you,

Continued on Page 5

Now is the time for all good robots to come to the aid of the Society!

BARTHOLOMEW Proton X12—Bart to his friends—is coming to the aid of The Spastics Society. Who is Bartholomew Proton? Well he doesn't actually exist at the moment—but when he does he will have 12 volt heavy duty feet, legs full of money and flashing lights on his head.

Bart is a robot, being built by four students at the Hornsey College of Art, London. He is being designed to sell flags at The Spastics Society's first London flag day, on July 11.

Bart's "Pitch"

"We are rather short of human flag sellers," said Mr. Kevin Finucane, the Society's flag day organiser. "So the students offered to build us a robot one to help out. We hope

to station him in a large London store during the flag day."

The four students who are building Bart are Helga Lawrence, 19, Max Rosenberg, 20, Bob Silk, 19, and Jeremy Braund, 18, with the help of their tutor John Holloway. They are carrying out the work as part of a college project during a pre-diploma course.

"The robot will stand seven feet six inches high," said Max, "and he will be constructed mainly of perspex and aluminium. Flag buyers will place a coin in his chest, and as the coin rolls through his body it will trigger off various mechanisms. It will activate his voice, flashing lights, body movements and so on."

"Because he is being constructed largely of perspex, people will be able to see their

coin passing through him and various reactions taking place within his body. He will be powered by two 12 volt car batteries in his feet, and the money will be stored in his legs."

His appeal

Bart is still in the early stages of construction. Before designing him the four students set out to discover what sort of a robot would appeal to both children and adults. They felt that the mechanical activities would provide interest for the adults.

Bartholomew Proton is expected to be completed later this month. Pictures of him and his creators will appear in the next issue of Spastics News.



Margaret Raines, 25, 'clocks in' at the Teesside Spastics Work Centre, Middlesbrough, on an antique time machine recently acquired by the Centre's manager, Mr. Eric Pearson. Although the employees arrive at the Centre by special transport at staggered times, it is a great morale-booster for them to clock in like workers in open industry.

(Photo by courtesy of the Northern Echo, Darlington)

Spastics Week July 5-11

Doorstep swindlers reported to police

DOORSTEP swindlers have been calling at homes in an Essex town and claiming they are collecting money to buy an ambulance for the Basildon Spastics Society. But the callers are bogus, and have nothing whatever to do with the Society.

Mrs. Mavis Brett, the Group secretary, has warned anyone who is approached to ask for up-to-date identification, and has reported the matter to the police.

Certainly the Group are in urgent need of an ambulance—but needless to say they have not received any of the money which is supposedly being collected on its behalf.

Said Mrs. Brett: "It is a terrible struggle trying to raise money without this sort of thing dragging us into bad repute."

"They are just taking money under false pretences. My faith in human nature has been shattered."

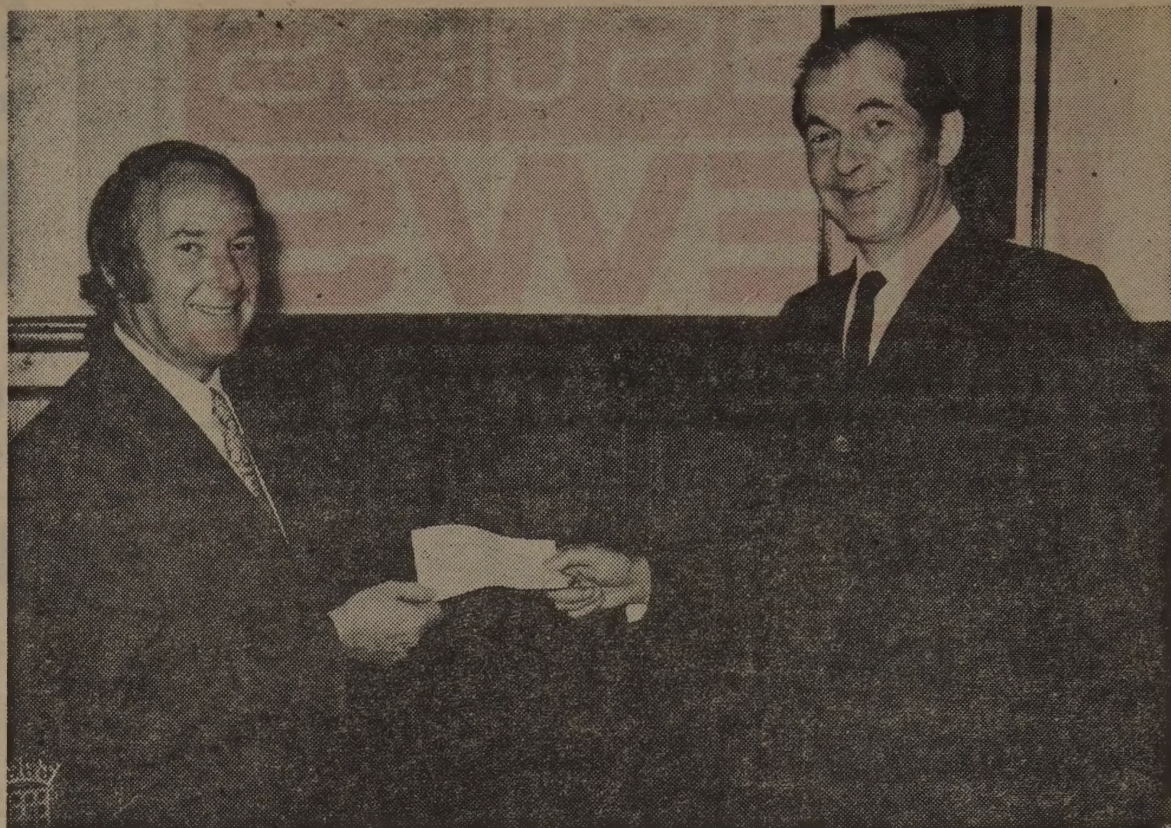
Society gives £5,000 to Fund for birth research

DESPITE financial problems following on a substantial loss of income due to the Pools Betting Duty case, The Spastics Society has handed over a cheque for £5,000 to a fellow charity, The National Birthday Trust Fund. The money will help to finance the Trust's 1970 British Births Survey which has collected, and is now collating, information on all deliveries in the U.K. during one week of April.

The Spastics Society is already deeply concerned with helping to promote research into congenital abnormalities and—towards that end—has established and maintains a £2,000,000 Paediatric Research Unit at Guy's Hospital, London.

"Nevertheless," said Mr. James Loring, the Society's Director, "we feel that this survey project in the field of obstetrics, designed to promote the health and well-being of mother and baby, is worthy of support, despite our financial difficulties. For perinatal mortality rates are still too high. Thousands of babies die every year at birth, or during the early days of life, while thousands more are born with a serious handicap. Yet often this waste of human potential could be avoided."

The Society's gift was accepted by Mr. Maurice Macmillan, M.P., Chairman of the Trust's Appeal Committee for the Survey. Also present at the House of Commons' ceremony was Mr. Walter A. Gilbey, Chairman of the Executive Committee of The National Birthday Trust; Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, M.P., an executive committee member; and Mr. Geoffrey Chamberlain, M.B., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.O.G., a co-director of the Survey.



Mr. Loring presents the cheque to Mr. Macmillan.

Jet set pigeons will fly to help spastics

ABOUT 50 American pigeons will fly the Atlantic this year, to be sold at Wally Pope's Annual racing pigeon auction in aid of The Spastics Society. However, the journey will be a fairly effortless one for the ornithological immigrants. They will travel by aircraft, neatly packed in ex-army fibreboard cartons, rather than under their own steam.

In return for the American birds, 50 British racing pigeons

interest to our auction, and to the American pigeon auction. All of the pigeons exchanged will have pedigrees, and some will come from the leading pigeon lofts in both countries.

Birds promised

"Many of Britain's most eminent pigeon fanciers have already promised to send me birds for the American auction. I believe this kind of mutual co-operation between charities on both sides of the Atlantic will go a long way towards cementing relationships."

In a letter to The Spastics Society, Mr. Morris Cohen, President of the Vincent D. Snyder Scholarship Fund, said the American pigeons would be of very high quality. They were good long distance birds used to flying over mountains, deserts and hot dusty plains.

will be sent to the U.S.A. early next year, to be auctioned in aid of the Vincent D. Snyder Memorial Scholarship Fund, a charitable organisation which raises money to train nurses.

Said Wally Pope, whose pigeon auctions have raised about £16,000 over the past few years: "This exchange of birds will add a new

OFF TO THE ZOO — IN WHEELCHAIRS

THE day that little Elaine Douglas met the white rabbit she felt just like Alice in Wonderland. For she and six of her friends from the Watford Spastics Treatment Centre met a host of strange animals, many of which they had never seen in real life before.

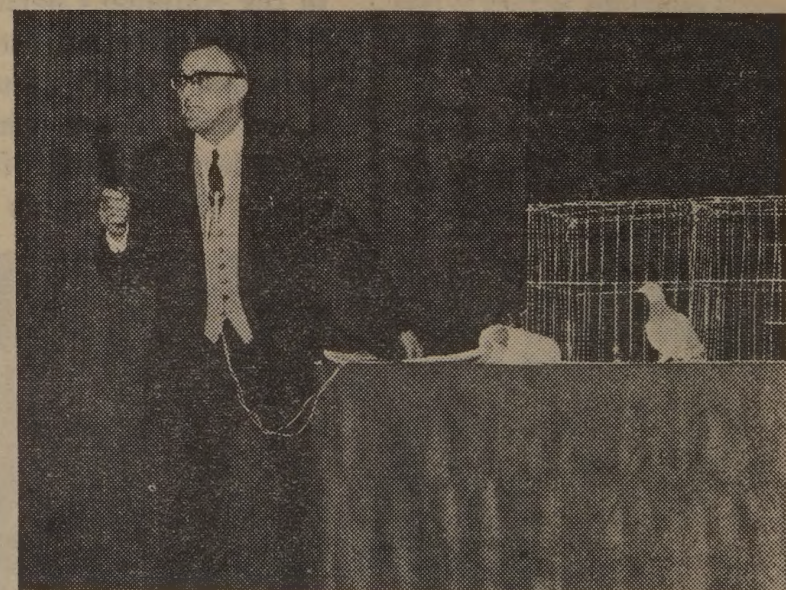
The children were being shown around the London Zoo before taking part in a small ceremony to launch a ramp for wheelchairs, which had been constructed in the children's zoo. They watched the elephants taking a bath, the chimpanzees taking intelligence tests; lions, tigers,

camels, giraffes and many other zoological wonders.

After the ramp launching ceremony, the children and their helpers were treated to lunch by the zoo staff.

Picture left: Elaine Douglas, escorted by Mrs. P. Heap, meets the white rabbit.

Below: The children and their helpers in the children's zoo. They are Juan Fafian Barcia, with Mrs. N. Timson; Tina Sharpe, with her mother Mrs. J. Sharpe; Elaine Douglas with Mrs. P. Heap; Maritzio Vermazza, with Clare Hunt, an occupational therapist at the Watford Centre; Jonathan Coombe, with Mrs. D. Pickin and Michael Reen, with Mrs. D. Tanner.



Auctioneer Wally Pope in action. His sales of pedigree racing pigeons have raised about £16,000.

Newspaper helps with circus visit

MR. John Manton, 52, of Sheffield, has been a life-long circus fan and was highly delighted to hear that Billy Smart's Circus would be performing locally.

However, he is a spastic, confined to a wheelchair, and this

presented considerable transport problems.

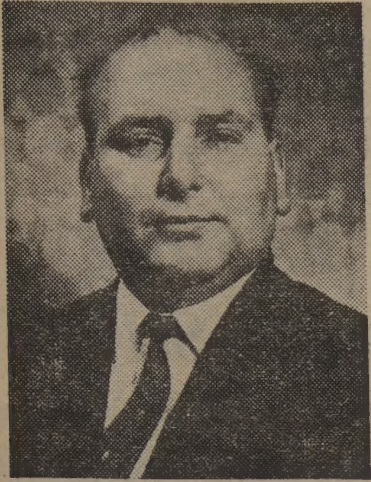
He telephoned the circus and spoke to Public Relations Officer, Mr. Ron Coulson, explaining his difficulties. Mr. Coulson contacted a local newspaper which runs a special campaign to help the elderly and disabled. They arranged for a voluntary driver, Mr. John Jenkins, to collect him and take him home after the performance.

Mr. Manton was carried to his ringside seat by Mr. Coulson and Mr. Jenkins.

Afterwards Mr. Manton said "The show was absolutely super."



New manager for S.O.S. Centre



MR. JOHN RIVERSDALE WILLIAMS has been appointed the new Manager of Colwall Court, the Stars Organisation for Spastics Centre at Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

He has a great interest in handicapped children, and is anxious to help them as much as he possibly can.

Before his appointment at Colwall Court Mr. Williams was for five years, the proprietor of an Inn in Monmouthshire. Previously he was a school teacher in London, and worked with handicapped children.

There will be vacancies at Colwall Court from September.

"ROUND THE WORLD" SHOW AIDS SCHOOL

A HAIR and fashion show was held at Peterborough Technical College in aid of The Spastics Society's Wilfred Pickles School.

The highspot of the evening was a "Round the World" sequence in which costumes from various countries were matched up with the appropriate hairstyles.

The event raised £100 which will help to provide a covered way to the new heated swimming pool at the school.

Mr. Eric Smith, Chairman of the school's Board of Governors, thanked the organisers for putting on the show.

He said the pool was not only a source of enjoyment for the children, it also had great therapeutic value.

Who would like an adventure holiday?

A CAMPING Adventure Holiday with a difference is being organised from Sunday, 9th August to Friday, 14th August on a beautiful private camp site in North-East Lancashire. Holidaymakers will be accommodated in a newly built "lodge," and activities will include walking expeditions and minibus excursions to local beauty spots and places of interest, such as the Trough of Bowland, the Yorkshire Dales and the Fylde Coast.

Cost is £8 (including transport from London if required), and enquiries are welcomed from any young handicapped people interested in joining the party. Please write to:

The Holiday Organiser,
The Spastics Society,
16 Fitzroy Square,
London, W1P 5HQ.

Elaine applies for the Open University 'Don't talk of courage and bravery'

ELAINE ROBERTS is an attractive 24-year-old with a lively sense of humour. She has been married about a year and lives in a modern flat on the outskirts of Northampton.

She has had a poem published in a recent anthology of love poetry and some of her oil paintings have been shown in a local art exhibition.

With six "O-levels" and two "A's" to her credit, she hopes now to take a degree course so that she can supplement her husband's income by teaching English. This is an unusual ambition for a young married woman perhaps, but she would obviously never be content with mere domesticity.

The remarkable thing is that Elaine faces life with a disadvantage which would make many of us want to curl up and vegetate the time away. Born a spastic, she cannot walk, has limited use in her hands and suffers from a severe speech defect.

In fact, strangers find it so difficult to understand her that she usually "talks" by means of her electric typewriter. She manipulates the keys with her nose!

Although confined to a wheelchair, Elaine has travelled extensively on her own, both by rail and air. She gets around the communication problem by preparing copious notes beforehand for doling out en route to porters, taxi drivers, airport officials, and others she meets on the journey.

She has travelled to France several times alone. When she went to Paris to stay with friends for a month, it was the first time she had ever flown.

"I was quite petrified until I got up into the air," she admitted.

Understood

She was undeterred by language problems, however, although she heard only French spoken for the next four weeks. Parted from her typewriter, she got by with a letter board and sometimes managed to make herself understood in spoken French. This experience helped her to pass 'A-Level' French.

In her 'teens, Elaine attended The Spastics Society's Thomas Delarue School for five years and afterwards went on to Oakwood Further Education Centre in Essex to continue her G.C.E. studies. While still at Oakwood, she went on a short arts course in Northamptonshire and here she met her husband, Brian, who lived in the area.

When they first married, almost a year ago, they had to live in furnished rooms, which were very inconvenient as the accommodation was split up on

two floors. They applied for a council flat and, much to everyone's surprise, were allocated one just four months later. It is a ground-floor flat on a pleasant new estate just outside Northampton. It has two bedrooms, one of which Elaine uses as a study.

She has a home help on three mornings a week and a friendly neighbour does shopping for her each day. Brian manages to get home in the lunch-hour

from his work at Northampton Labour Exchange to help with the mid-day meal.

Elaine says that her first attempt at cooking set the oven alight. "I just had to sit and watch the flames get higher and higher," she said. Eventually the fire burnt itself out without spreading to the rest of the kitchen.

The flat is a long way from the town centre and Elaine feels rather cut off during the hours when Brian is at work,

especially as all her own friends and relatives live far away, in the South of England. She says that she is a gregarious creature and misses the companionship which she found at Delarue and Oakwood. In fact, she still goes back to Oakwood occasionally for a few days' break when the loneliness begins to get her down.

She also feels very keenly her inability to contribute to the household income. She would like to teach English by correspondence from her home and has tried very hard to get a job. However, she has been told that a degree is really necessary for this type of work, so she has applied for a place at the new Open University.

Years of study

Tuition at the University, which starts next year, will be by means of correspondence, radio and television broadcasts and summer schools. Students will also be able to attend local study centres for face-to-face teaching. To gain a degree by this method it will be necessary to achieve credits in six subjects and it will take at least three years to complete the course.

When the University authorities received Elaine's application for a four-year Bachelor of Arts course, they sent a Public Relations man to see her. He said that they hadn't had

many handicapped applicants and thought that some publicity about her might encourage other disabled people to apply.

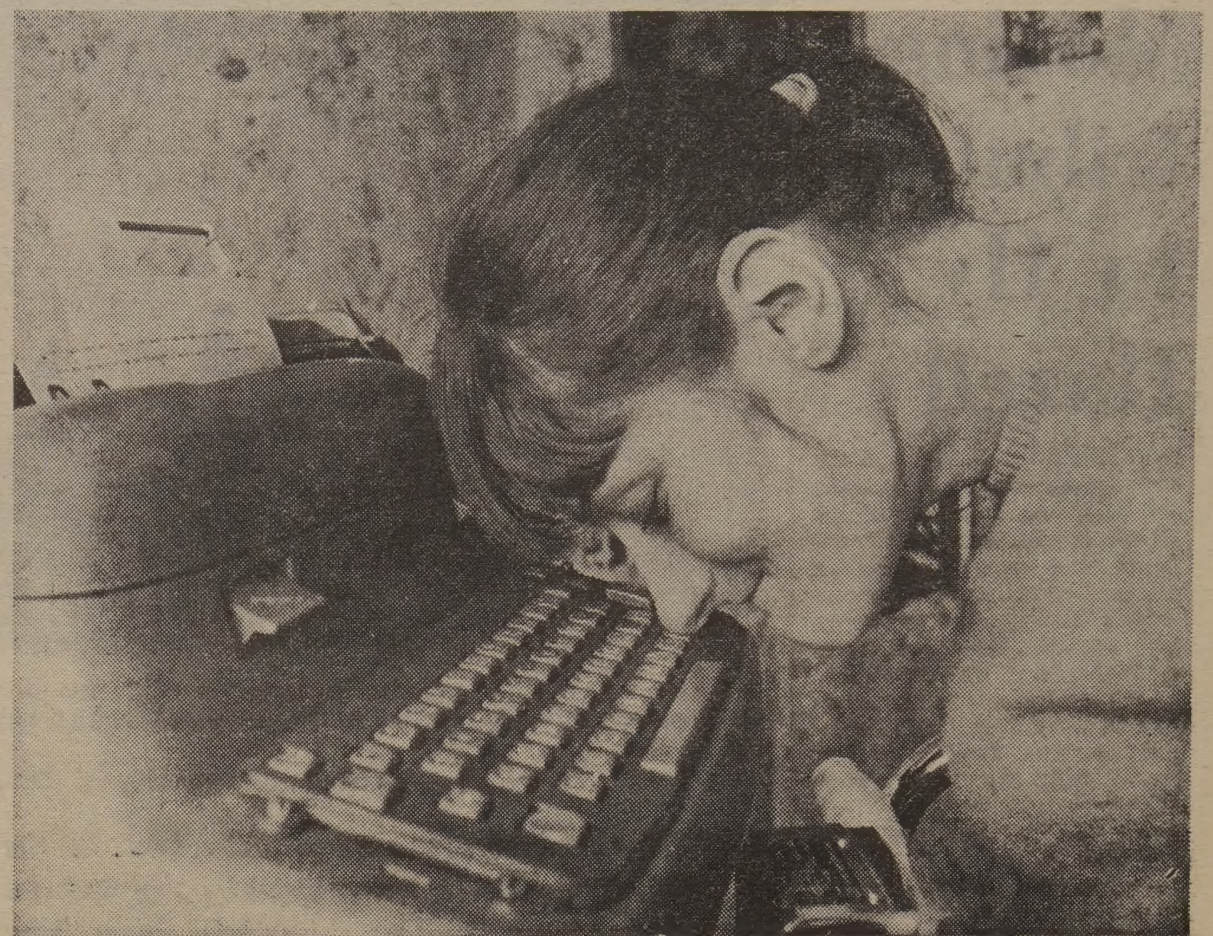
The story received wide coverage in both the national and provincial press. However, Elaine was highly irritated by such headlines as "Bachelor of Bravery" and "Top Marks for Courage."

When I think of people with much greater difficulties who are at ordinary universities, all this publicity makes me feel guilty," she said.

She will not know until August whether she has been accepted or not. "It will be funny if I didn't get in after all this," she tapped out ruefully.

It would be a great pity in fact if the Open University missed this opportunity. If Elaine is accepted and gains her degree, it would open up new possibilities not only to other disabled people but also to many homebound housewives who complain that their minds are stagnating from lack of intellectual stimulus.

ANNE PLUMMER



Because strangers find it difficult to understand her, Elaine usually "talks" on her typewriter. She manipulates the keys with her nose. Picture below left: Elaine with her husband.



BIG DAY AT PONDS

A STEEL BAND, sideshows, and 40 stands organised by volunteers, will be among the attractions at the fete at Ponds, The Spastics Society's Adult Residential Centre, Seer Green, Beaconsfield, Bucks., on June 13th. The fete will be opened at 2.30 by Miss Kathleen Blake, who will later present G.C.E.'s.

Now puppet show will go on tour

THE puppet show put on by spastics at the Alexander Anderson Home in Scotland (pictured in last month's Spastics News), was so popular that offers have been made to take the show "on tour."

A guest at the opening night offered to pay transport costs for the entire cast

to hold a performance in Oban. A similar event is planned in Stirling.

Further productions will be held at the home's Garden Fete and at the Christmas Fayre.

SPASTICS WEEK 1970

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OVER 40 EXCITING NEW ITEMS!

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Homework Section,
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London, W.1.

01-387 9571

Spastics Week July 5-11 Moving tributes to Hy Hazell

MEMBERS of the Stars Organisation for Spastics are mourning the death of Hy Hazell, one of their Vice Presidents, and most enthusiastic workers on behalf of spastics.

Miss Hazell died suddenly last month, after collapsing while lunching with friends.

At the last meeting of the S.O.S. moving tributes were paid to Miss Hazell by Mr. Brian Rix, the Stars' Vice-Chairman, and by Mr. W. A. Burn, Chairman of The Spastics Society.

Mr. Rix recalled the tremendous enthusiasm with which Miss Hazell had worked for Colwall Court, the S.O.S. holiday home for spastics at Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, first as a member of the committee and subsequently, for four years, as Chairman.

"She will be sadly missed by all of us," he said.

Mr. Burn said he had worked closely with Miss Hazell and he was sad and grieved to learn of her death. He recalled Miss Hazell's hard work and enthusiasm on behalf of the S.O.S. cause and said that a personality of such great heart, kindness and generosity was a great loss to everyone associated with work for spastics.

Miss Hazell's death was very sad news for the staff and residents at Colwall Court. The manager, Mr. John Williams said: "We're all utterly shocked. She was such a friend to us all at all times and her death is a grievous loss."

Travels on a donkey for patients

YOUNG patients in Oak House Ward, Leavesden Hospital, Hertfordshire, will now be able to enjoy rides around the hospital grounds in a donkey cart.

The cart, with a donkey called Janus, was bought by parents of boys in Oak House and was handed over recently by Mr. Eric Suffern, father of Colin, one of the patients who is a spastic.

A parent-nurse association was formed at Oak House two years ago and since then has provided many amenities for the 30 patients in the ward.

In a letter to Spastics News, Colin's mother, Mrs. Edna Suffern, said: "Even if these hospitals look very grim and old, the staff are magnificent, especially when few patients can even say 'Thank you!'"

Sad loss for Wolverhampton Society

MEMBERS of the Wolverhampton and District Spastics Society have been saddened by the sudden death of their President, Mr. Norman Goodchild.

He died just a few days before he was to have opened the Society's new Training



The freedom of the outdoor life is captured in this picture as, silhouetted against the sky, spastic riders practise for the pony trek which will take place in Ashdown Forest in July.

(Photo by courtesy of Times Educational Supplement).

ABOUT 12 spastic horse riders will set out for the first ever pony trek organised by The Spastics Society next month. The riders will come from various parts of the country to take part in the trek.

Using ponies from the Bradbourne Riding School—where pupils of The Spastics Society's Thomas Delarue School learn to ride—the pony trekkers will explore the Ashdown Forest, in Sussex. They will carry tents with them, and will spend several nights under canvas during the week-long trek.

The event is being conducted as an experiment. If it is successful further treks will be held in various parts of Britain.

Said Mr. A. T. S. Edwards, Education Adviser to The Spastics Society, who has pioneered several recreational activities for spastics: "Horse riding has become extremely popular among handicapped people. It is an excellent sport because it helps to build up confidence and helps them to mix with non-handicapped people."

Below: Pupils of the Society's Delarue School have a riding lesson. Some will be taking part in the July pony trek.

(Photo by courtesy of The Times).



Walk will aid D-day costs at Lancaster

A SPONSORED walk has been held on the athletics track at the Lancaster and Morecambe College of Further Education. It was organised by the Friends of the Lancaster Spastics Training Centre and 20 trainees from the Centre were among the 95 walkers taking part. These included Anthony Harnott, 22, who completed 100 laps of the track—a distance of 25 miles—and Lynn Bates, 16, who walked 20 miles.

The greatest distance was covered by two 13-year-old local schoolboys, Philip Wade, who completed 29 miles and John Derkach, who finished just one lap behind.

The organisers were hoping to raise £500 to pay for the decimalisation of machinery used in office training courses at the Centre.

Film tells of devotion and care at Moor Park

"HELPIN' Hand," a colour film about the day-to-day activities of Moor Park Spastics Day Centre, Preston, was premiered to a large audience in the town.

The film is the result of a co-operative effort between the Preston and District Spastics Group, the staff at Moor Park, and the members of the Preston Cine Club. The Club offered to make the film as their donation towards the work of the Centre.

Mr. L. Redmayne, Chairman of the Group, speaks the introduction of the film, and the narration is by Mrs. F. Lawrenson, supervisor of the Centre.

The dramatic and appealing film took six months to complete. It shows the extreme handicaps of some of the children and the devotion and specialist care of the staff. Apart from creating interest in the work of the Centre, it will provide an excellent vehicle for the fund-raising activities of the Group.

Dartmoor hike raised £500

PLYMOUTH Spastics Association has held a 26-mile sponsored team hike over Dartmoor. In order to avoid the traffic dangers of the main roads, the route had been mapped out along a disused railway line and across Moorland footpaths. Here the walkers had to contend with more natural hazards such as bogs, rough ground and heavy rain.

The winning team in the Senior Group was Sutton High School and Southway Comprehensive School won the junior cup.

The event raised £500 for the Association.

Donations from Groups aid the Family Services Centre

LOCAL groups affiliated to The Spastics Society have responded generously to an appeal from the Director, Mr. James Loring for financial help towards the running costs of the Society's Family Services and Assessment Centre, Fitzroy Square, London.

So far, this year, a total of £1,262 has been donated by 39 groups. Huddersfield and District Spastics Society has sent £250, Derby and District Spastics Society has donated £100 and sums of £50 have been received from: Southampton and District Spastics Association, Canterbury and Kent Coast Group, Hitchin and Letchworth Spastics Society, Darlington and District Spastics Society, South Humberside Spastics Society, Halifax and District Spastics Society, and Reading and Berkshire Spastics Welfare Society.

Last year, more than 60 groups helped by making donations to the Centre, and the Merthyr Tydfil and District Spastics Society was particularly generous with a handsome donation of £1,000.

In his letter to Groups about the Centre, Mr. Loring told them of developments and activities and quoted the comments of a family who recently visited Fitzroy Square: "We were

FASHIONS ON SHOW



Members and friends of Wolverhampton and District Spastics Society watch a fashion show staged at the Society's new headquarters in Tettenhall Road. The show raised £40 for funds. The Group is busy making plans for another sponsored walk this month, and for a garden party during Spastics Week.

An old-time ball organised by the York dancing teachers, the Du Roys has raised £90 for the York and District Spastics Group.

most impressed by the helpfulness and warmth of everyone at the Centre and cannot speak too highly of your service"

£15,000 must be raised

A NEW £28,000 extension is being built at Birtenshaw Hall Special School for spastics, near Bolton, Lancashire, which is affiliated to The Spastics Society.

The new wing will provide some long-needed facilities for the 46 pupils at the school. Extensions include a library, large assembly hall, craft room and physiotherapy room.

The Department of Education and Science has agreed to pay half the cost of the new extension, but about £15,000 will still have to be met from voluntary contributions.

Aids to help you make your garden grow

AFTER many years of preparation the Disabled Living Foundation has finally got a near perfect site in the Syon Park Gardening Centre, Brentford, Middlesex, to demonstrate how planning and special aids can put gardening within the reach of most handicapped people.

This site is large enough to have a green-

house, potting shed and pool, and also incorporates raised flower beds and every known piece of equipment which can aid the disabled to garden.

The special demonstration garden opens

officially on June 16th and all who are interested in visiting will be advised to meet Miss Chaplin, the horticulturist in charge, who will be able to advise on gardening matters.

To make sure that

Miss Chaplin will be there at the time of your visit you should telephone the Disabled Living Foundation, 01-834 8016 at Vincent House, Vincent Square, S.W.1.

NICHOLAS ELWES.

Spastics Week July 5-11



The Baronet long-handled weeder in action.



The Anita leaf gatherer.



Hoing from a wheelchair.



Tending a raised bed with a midget Grubber.



Lightweight pots and lightweight Levington compost.

All systems go for Spastics Week success

Continued from Page 1

for instance, why they like to help spastics, and you have some very pleasant conversations. I would say to anyone — 'Have a go at collecting, it's very enjoyable as well as being so worthwhile.' "

Naturally Mr. Finucane would like to hear from you if you would like to help by joining his team of collectors. Contact him at Park Crescent.

The Week in London will also be marked with a Service of Dedication at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, at 3.45 p.m. on Sunday July 5th, and the Premiere of a new Society film at the National Film Theatre, on Tuesday, July 7th.

Sponsored Walks are big news for Spastics Week '70. A massive one will take place in Epping Forest on July 12th. This 12-mile tramp will start and finish at Chingford Plain, and so far 40 schools are taking part and 3,360 youth clubs have been approached. Too early yet for final numbers — but

over 30,000 people could be involved.

Richmond Park will be crowded too, on Sunday, July 12th, when about 4,000 sponsored walkers will be stepping out in support of The Spastics Society. Schools and clubs in the towns which border the Park have been approached and a fund raising success seems assured.

Sponsored walkers are safer off the roads, of course, (in addition it's more pleasant for the walkers to enjoy a view a way from the traffic), and 20 Stately Home owners have offered their grounds for walks. More details in next month's Spastics News.

Ideas Galore

Local Groups are surpassing themselves in thinking up bright ideas for fund raising events. Preston will have a whip-pet race and an auction sale; Darlington plans an "It's a Knockout" contest; there is a donkey derby run by the Hornsey Centre; a gymkhana at

Teesside; Cambridge plan a river trip, Blackburn have a "Snip and Snap" evening, Coventry will be throwing out a "keep fit" challenge. There are many sponsored events — from sponsored 10-pin bowling at Weston to a sponsored swim at Dudley, while Huddersfield is planning a marathon swim.

These are just a fraction of the Group events planned to help raise such desperately needed money. In addition there will be dozens of door knocks throughout the country.

Literature

Mr. Mike Reynolds, the Spastics Week Co-ordinator at Park Crescent, told Spastics News that about 250,000 items of Spastics Week literature are being distributed — apart from hundreds of thousands of flag day emblems and door knock envelopes.

The Spastics Games Ball will be held by Mrs. A. Monzani at Ashlyns, Berkhamstead, Herts. on July 4th. Here you can dance until 1 a.m. to the music of Nat Temple and his

Orchestra, and enjoy a wonderful evening while helping to raise funds. Tickets cost £3 3s. each, and can be obtained from Mrs. Monzani at Ashlyns, or from the office of the Assistant Director, Services, at 12 Park Crescent.

On July 12th, the Stars Organisation for Spastics is holding an Open Day at its Centre, Wakes Hall, nr. Colchester, Essex. A galaxy of stars will be pres-

ent, all determined to reach the ambitious fund raising target of £2,000 which will be used for building extensions.

The staff at the Family Services and Assessment Centre, Fitzroy Square, London, are organising an "Uncommon Market" as their fund raising effort for Spastics Week. This will be held from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Centre, on June 4th, and it is hoped

that there will be 30 stalls — everything from antiques to flowers and plants — and, in addition, a sale of paintings. Their target is £750.

The staff also plans a cash collecting "raid" on West End pubs on the evening before the sale and would welcome volunteers who would be prepared to rattle collecting tins with them.

Communication is Society's theme at major exhibition

THE Spastics Society will have a stand at the International Hospital Equipment and Medical Engineering and Services Exhibition at Earls Court, London, from June 16th to 19th.

And it promises to be one of the most exciting stands at this very important exhibition. The theme is "Communica-

tion," and the stand will demonstrate the Society's work in the fields of education, therapy, severe subnormality, transport, aids and appliances, employment and training.

The point of "communication" will be pressed home with displays of paintings by spastics at Society Schools and Centres. Over 70 will be on show and they show visitors to the exhibition how the severely handicapped communi-

cate through the medium of art.

The pictures are the work of spastics from De La Rue, Meldreth, Craig-y-Parc and Ingfield Schools, and Ponds Oakwood, Dene Park, and Coombe Farm Centres.

The Society's publications will be an important feature of the stand, so will the famous Newton Wheelchair, which is manufactured at the Society's Meadow Works, Birmingham.

Spastics Week July 5-11

A PRESENTATION with a difference—thanks to Cambridge United Football Club—when area representative Mr. Harry Chambers, arranged for the Ford Escort de Luxe car won by Mr. P. Brading of Cambridge, to be on display before and during the match between Cambridge United and Chelmsford.

In addition, details of the prize were announced at half time to a crowd of over 4,000, and the actual presentation by United's Manager, Bill Lievers, was staged in the Club House immediately after the match.

No doubt one of the reasons for the success of the presentation was United's victory by 2-0, which put them well on the way to retaining their Southern League Championship.

* * *
MEXICO, Greece, Spain and Portugal are just a few of the exciting countries which will be visited by prize winners in recent "Spastics" competitions. The highlight of the year will be the departure from Gatwick of 50 members at the beginning of this month, to attend the World Cup Finals in Mexico.

The Consolation Prizes offered will mean over one thousand members will be spending a week at one of three Pontin's Holiday Centres. No wonder these "easy to enter" additional competitions are becoming increasingly popular.

Your help wanted for research project

WERE you 40 or more when your handicapped child was born? If so, and, if your child is less than 13 now, the Paediatric Research Unit would be grateful for your help in a research project. Please 'phone or write to: Dr. Eva Alberman, Paediatric Research Unit, Guy's Hospital Medical School, London, S.E.1. Tel. 01-407 7600. Ext. 494.

Splashes from the Spastics Pool



Vice-President of the Stars Organisation for Spastics, Miss Diane Hart, found time during her election campaign on behalf of "Homes before Roads," to present a Ford Escort de Luxe car to Mrs. E. Gregory, of London, N.W.8. Miss Hart recently completed a successful two-year run at

the Vaudeville Theatre in the Comedy "The Man Most Likely To."

* * *
YET another example of the co-operation that exists between collectors, supervisors and local spastics Groups comes from Lincolnshire.

The Secretary of the Scunthorpe and District

Spastics Centre approached Mr. J. Kirkby, to enlist his assistance with selling tickets for a Ball raffle. Mr. Kirkby contacted Mr. H. Bramley and Mr. M. Abbey who, with considerable help from their collectors, raised the grand sum of £145.

Add this figure to their Christmas effort and this willing band of helpers have raised over £369 for the local Group. The Scunthorpe Group emphasised their imaginative attitude to fund raising when they nominated Mrs. Patricia Cope for the 1970 National Charity Queen and Princess Contests.

* * *

Former Wolverhampton Wanderers and England footballer, Jimmy Mullen, congratulates three Staffordshire first dividend winners—pictured from left to right below, Mrs. C. Brown £395; Mrs. J. Benbow £419; Mr. W. Murphy £395, when they recently received their prize cheques.



Heather Puddephatt, the Daresbury Hall finalist in the National Charity Queen and Princess Contest, binds up the sore feet of David Parsonage. David completed a solo run of 20 miles, which raised £60 for Heather's charity. Photo by courtesy of Warrington Council.

1970 Finalists — National Charity Queen and Princess

	Sponsored by:	On behalf of:
ANNE CUMMING	Scottish Hansel Village	Same
AVRIL BARBER	Penny Gobby House School	Same
CAROLE RIDDELL	General Time Ltd. (Westelox)	Leukaemia Research
CHRISTINE BRUNSDEN	Precision Engineering Co. Ltd.	Reading Old Folks Holiday Fund
DAWN SCULLY	Regional Club Organisation Ltd.	Bristol Spastics
ELAINE CARNEY	Alder Hey Children's Kidney Fund	Same
ELISE McCORMACK	L. G. Harris & Co. Ltd.	Stars Organisation Spastics
ELIZABETH GAVAN	Banner Textiles Ltd.	Dr. Barnardo's
HAZEL SHEPHERD	Deaf Children's Society	Same
HEATHER PUDEPHATT	Daresbury Hall Spastics Centre	Same
JANE TRUSHELL	Corseford School for Spastics	Scottish Council of Care of Spastics
JANET MASTERS	Hamilton Lodge School for Deaf Children	Same
JEAN WATKINS	Britton of U.K. Ltd.	Bristol Old People's
JENNIFER GRIFFITHS	Warmley Training Centre	Same
JENNY GREEN	Pilkington Bros. Ltd.	National Kidney Fund
KATIE GARDNER	Judge International Housewares Ltd.	Royal National Institution
KAREN PARKINSON	Playboy Club of London	N.C.U.M.C.
LESLEY EDWARDS	Barclays Bank Ltd. Social Club	N.S.P.C.C.
LINDA WALTHO	Headley Cleaning Contractors Ltd.	Bristol Spastics
MARGARET CUMMING	Robert Glew & Co. Ltd.	Dr. Barnardo's
PATRICIA MAY	St. Christopher's School	Same
RUTH COHEN	International Voluntary Service	Same
SHEILA WHITWORTH	Normandy Ferries	Royal National Institution
VANESSA HIATT	C. J. Mason & Sons Ltd.	Bristol Council

Opportunity comes to Somerset children

A RETIRED company director, a bank manager, a doctor's wife, a mother of a handicapped child, the Junior Training Centre's recently retired head, a senior mental welfare officer and The Spastics Society's regional social worker, met in December, 1969 to discuss the lack of facilities for young handicapped children in the Yeovil area.

There was suitable accommodation for a play

group, trained staff generously assisted by volunteers, but no money.

A New Year Appeal met with overwhelming response and Yeovil's Mayor recently received more than £800 on behalf of the Opportunity Group — the first playgroup for handicapped children in Somerset.

The Lions sponsored walk produced £117. Many women's organisations sent donations. The Heron Social Club gave £125 for equipment, the local Spastics Group £50 for a stor-

age hut, the League of Friends of Yeovil Hospital £500, in addition to making the Group their 1970 project.

Another £200 came from Somerset's Health Committee, the Sembal Trust are showing interest and the Regional Hospital Board have asked to meet the Committee.

The Spastics Society is expected to donate £250, and the Society for Mentally Handicapped Children £100, contingent on the Local Authority providing transport.

Five members of the 18 plus Club raised £180 by a sponsored sit-in in Mendip Caves.

Already, after it is obvious the ren attending to some with multi some who are benefiting by special facilities and good play addition of a children also pation, something to happen in late

How much it group will be t of many others Somerset, but t country.

Tina's busy year

LAST year's National Charity Princess, Tina Peel-Yates, won the title by collecting £1,699 in about seven weeks. She was several hundred pounds ahead of her nearest rival and the money was well spent on providing POSSUM electronic typewriter equipment for The Spastics Society's Further Education Centre.

Tina, 22, who works as



assistant to the Spastics Week Co-ordinator at 12 Park Crescent, has had a busy year since the 1969 contest and has attended many important functions in her official capacity as Charity Princess.

At Christmas, she spent her £500 prize money on a two-month holiday in South Africa, visiting her family, who had emigrated to Johannesburg earlier in the year. She also visited Durban and Salisbury, Rhodesia.

The rest of her prize—a Mediterranean holiday for two—Tina has held over until this summer. She is getting married in July and will take the prize trip to Sardinia as her honeymoon.

Tina, who has been helping two of this year's contestants, says that she does not envy any of the girls their mammoth fund-raising task, but once the hard work is over, the role of Charity Princess can be great fun.

"It is wonderful that young people should be encouraged to collect for their favourite charities in this way," she said, "And I would like to see the scheme grow much bigger."

Girls help others on their way to Charity Queen and Princess titles

WITH the hard work of fund raising behind them, 24 attractive young girls are now looking forward to the finals of this year's National Charity Queen and National Charity Princess Contest which will be held at the Lyceum Ballroom, London, on 25th June.

The contest is organised by Top Ten Promotions of Bristol, and both Queen and Princess will be chosen from the 24 girls who had raised the highest amount of money for their favourite charities up to the end of April. The Princess title will be awarded to the girl who has raised the highest overall amount, and the Queen will be chosen on the basis of charm and personality from the 24 finalists. So each girl has a chance of winning both titles, plus two cash prizes of £500.

The contestants will parade before the judges first in short dresses, then in full evening dress without a swimsuit to be seen. This, I feel, is a dignified contrast to the usual "cattle market" type of beauty contest.

Finalists who have been busy collecting money for spastics this year are Elsie McCormack of London, Heather Puddephatt of Lancashire, Jane Trushell from Scotland, and Dawn Scully and Linda Waltho of Bristol.

Elise, a 21-year-old ash blonde, has been working for six months at The Spastics Society's Headquarters at 12 Park Crescent as administrative assistant to Mrs. Sheila Rawstorne, Secretary to the Stars Organisation for Spastics. Elise nominated the S.O.S. as her favourite charity, of course, and although she has been collecting money for only about three months before the closing date she was very pleased with the result.

She is being sponsored by L. G. Harris and Co., the Worcestershire firm which sponsored Tina Peel-Yates, winner of last year's Princess title. Elsie says that, apart from putting up the entrance fee for the contest, the firm has been very gen-

erous to her in other ways. The employees held a sponsored walk and a raffle amongst themselves to help collect extra money.

Elise's major fund-raising event was a "Disc Jockey's Tea Party" at the Carousel Restaurant in London, where members of the public were able to chat up their favourite disc jockeys while enjoying refreshments prepared and served by well known show business personalities.

Generous

Entertaining is in fact a favourite pastime with Elise, who shares a Kensington flat with several other girls. She loves cooking, and helped to run a restaurant on the tiny Sicilian island of Lipari last summer. She has lived abroad



Elise McCormack, who has nominated the Stars Organisation for Spastics as her charity.

KALEIDOSCOPE

by

Anne Plummer

a great deal, including Mauritius, where her father worked in television for some years.

She says that she hasn't dared to think what she would spend the prize money on if she won the contest, but I suspect that some of it at least would go on foreign travel.

The Scottish finalist, Jane Trushell, 22, of Kilbarchen, works as a classroom assistant at Corseford School for Spastics, Johnstone, Renfrewshire. (See picture on front page). The school is run by the Scottish Council for the Care of Spastics and Jane has chosen this as her nominated charity. Jane was a late entrant for the contest and had only about two months in which to raise the money.

Many events

She organised a wide variety of fund-raising events which catered for all tastes. The ladies had a mannequin parade and flower arranging demonstration, sports enthusiasts were able to watch two novelty football matches and take part in a sponsored walk, while for the swinging young, there was the gala re-opening of an Oban discotheque.

Jane also handed out tubes of sweets and the recipients were asked to return the containers filled with threepenny pieces. Despite her late start, Jane managed to collect enough money by the closing date to qualify her for the finals.

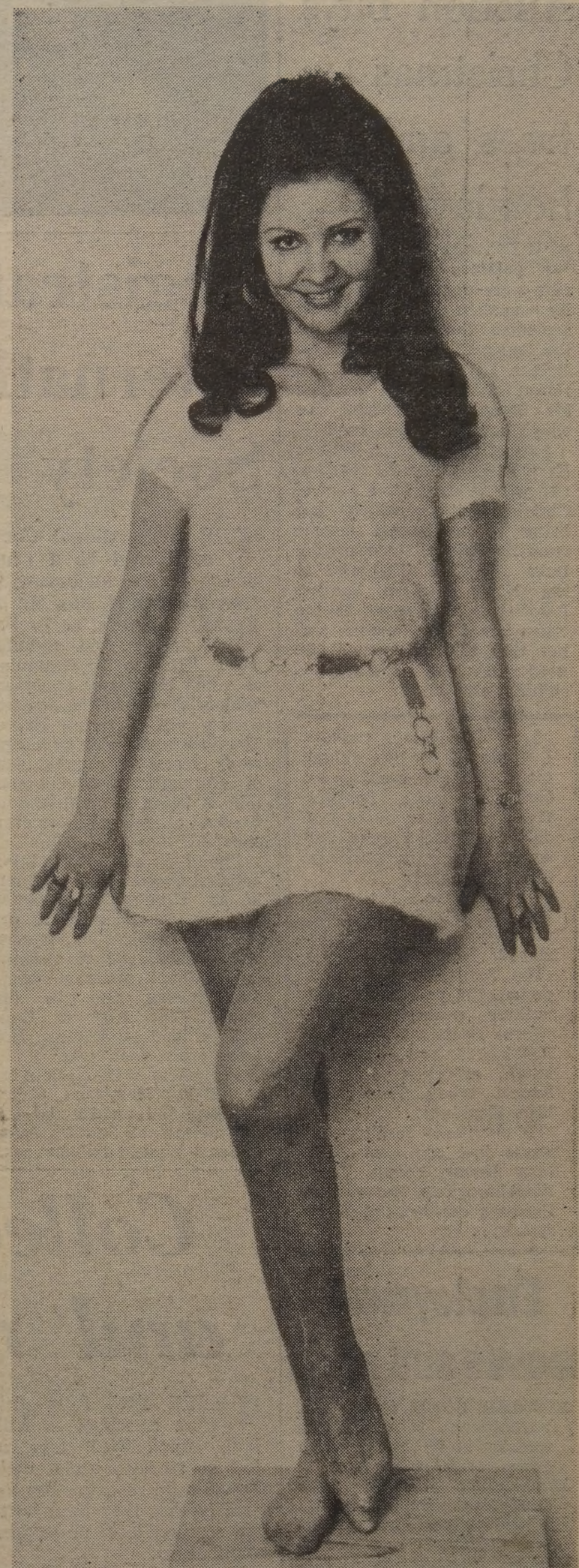
Heather Puddephatt, on the other hand, had reached her £1,000 target by mid-March and a few days before the closing date was less than £100 short of last year's winning total.

Sponsored run

Heather, 21, works as an assistant in the Physiotherapy Department at the Society's Daresbury Hall Residential Centre for adult spastics, near Warrington. Daresbury Hall, is, of course, her nominated charity and she is being sponsored by the Coach House Club at the Centre.

Apart from various events held at Daresbury Hall itself, pupils of Heather's old school in Warrington staged a sponsored walk on her behalf and David Parsonage ran all the way from Chester for her sake. David, 19, who works for a local chemical firm, completed his 20-mile sponsored run in three hours, 40 minutes, with Heather following by car (see picture, top left).

Heather also toured the War-



Carol Ann Bull, 22, last year's National Charity Queen. Between modelling assignments, Carol has been busy during her year of office organising raffles at football matches to raise money for deaf and spastic children. Continuing the charity theme, she was voted by readers of a national newspaper as the "Most Super Sunbird of them all." Her picture will now be used on the cover of "Valthor," a novel by Tom Ravensdale, to be sold in aid of the World Wildlife Fund.

(Photo by courtesy of the Sun)

rington pubs with her friends, giving impromptu entertainments, dressed in various eye-catching costumes.

Dawn Scully and Linda Waltho have both nominated Bristol Spastics Association to benefit from their efforts. Dawn, who is being sponsored by the Regional Club Organisation, works as a clerk. Her interests are dancing, keep-fit and travelling. In fact, her ambition is to travel all over the world.

Linda, 22, also reached the finals of last year's Charity Queen and Princess Contest. She is being sponsored by a Bristol firm of cleaning contractors. One of her main fund-raising efforts was a "Non-Stop

Cabaret" and nightclub at Bedminster.

The other finalists in the contest represent 18 different charities, so a wide range of people will be helped by the money they have collected. It must be some consolation to the girls who do not win or even reach the finals to know that their efforts have not been wasted.

Spastics Week July 5-11

Auction buys Christmas trees and holidays

GIFTS ranging from sacks of potatoes to a diamond ring were donated for a charity auction compered by comedian Bob Monkhouse at the Sands Club, Carr Mill, St. Helens, Lancs. About £600 was raised, and this sum included Mr. Monkhouse's cabaret fee which he gave to the fund.

Part of the proceeds went to Kyre Park Centre for spastics, and will be used for a field of Christmas trees which will bring in an annual income from the sale of the maturing trees. Another £175 went to the North Eastern Spastics Association who wrote to the organisers of the auction saying that the money will be used to give handicapped children a holiday.

A RECORD request played for the volunteers who are working so hard to make Spastics Week a success would not only cheer the helpers, but would help gain publicity for the big week.

So besiege the disc jockeys! Flood the BBC with requests for discs to be played for your helpers (The Beatles with "Help" perhaps?); your sponsored walkers (Nancy Sinatra's "These Boots are Made for Walking?"); and your door knock collectors ("Knock Knock, Who's There" by Mary Hopkin?).

If everybody reading this wrote just one card... then Jimmy Young, Tony Blackburn, Pete Murray and Company couldn't fail to respond...

Employment moves and news

EDWARD BOND from Cove, Farnborough (Sherrards) is working in Weybridge as an assembler/fitter.

JEANNETTE COLE from South Ockendon (Sherrards) is working locally as a soldering operator.

BARRY FOSTER from Lincoln (Sherrards) is employed locally as a capstan operator.

ROBERT FOSTER from Wellingborough (Sherrards) is working as a power press operator for a local firm manufacturing car accessories.

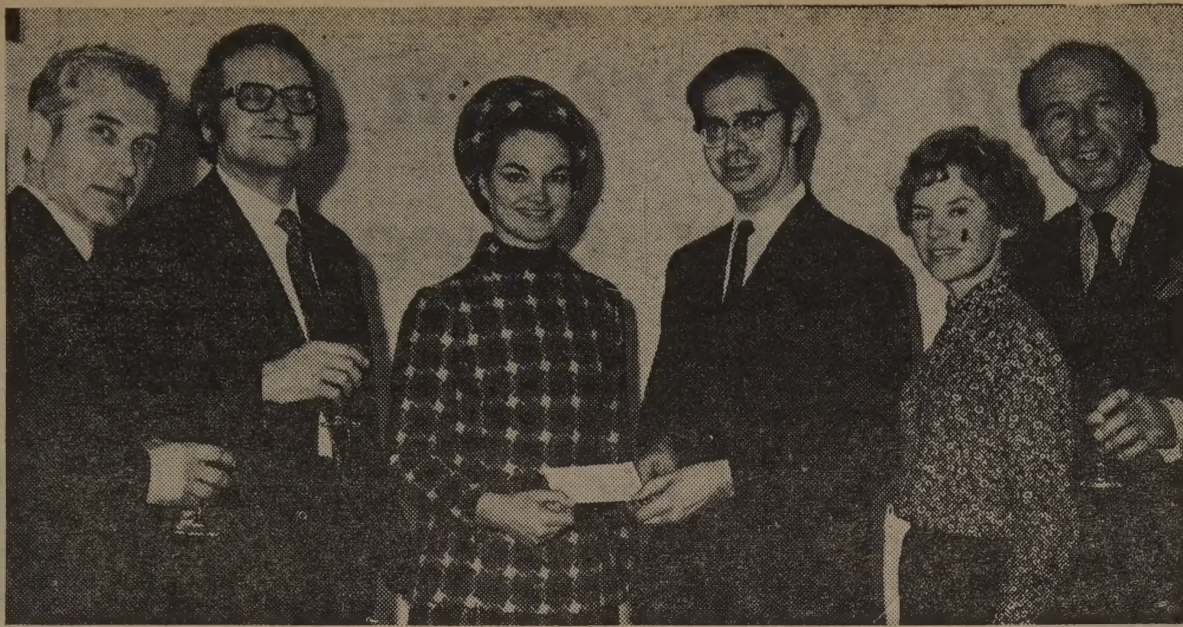
ROBIN HAYNES-DIXON from Newlyn (Lancaster) is employed as a sewing machinist by Remploy in Redruth.

LEE KENDRICK from Dagenham (Lancaster) has a new job and is working locally as an adlist operator — her previous firm having moved to Norfolk.

THOMAS PENNY from Salford is employed as a machine operator by Remploy in Wythenshawe.

YVONNE PIRIE from Northampton (Sherrards) is working locally as a machinist for a firm of clothing manufacturers.

GRAHAM ROBERTSON from Bath (Sherrards) is now doing light assembly work at the Bath Corporation Sheltered Workshop.



Registration for International Society

THE International Cerebral Palsy Society has been registered as a Charity in Britain. The Society, which is the successor to the World Commission for Cerebral Palsy, has Mr. James Loring, Director of The Spastics Society, as its Secretary General.

Mr. Loring told Spastics News: "This is the beginning of a new chapter of important work with which The Spastics Society will be closely linked. The Society will gain by having ready access to a great deal of information about the work that is being accomplished in the field of cerebral palsy overseas."

One of the aims of the International Cerebral Palsy Society is to circulate information between countries which are providing services for the cerebral palsied, and to organise international seminars where developments may be discussed. The next of these will be held at Arnhem, Holland, early next year.

The offices of the Society are at 20-22 Mortimer Street, London, W.1, which is also the address of Spastics International Medical Publications.

Spastic wins medal for "courage in adversity"

A BIRMINGHAM spastic has been awarded the British Empire Medal for his "courage and cheerfulness in the face of adversity."

He is Mr. John Henry Paxton, 54, a shop steward at the Birmingham Remploy factory.

The medal was presented to him by Mrs. Barbara Castle, Minister for Employment and Productivity.

Loan will aid Centre extension

At the annual meeting of the Friends of Wakes Hall, the adult Residential Centre in Essex run by the Stars Organisation for Spastics, Mr. B. Nicholls, of Coggeshall Football Club, presented a £76 cheque to the Marchioness of Tavistock, President of the Friends and also President of the S.O.S. This money was the proceeds of a local football match and dance.

Photographed above are (left to right) Mr. Derek Parker, Mr. Ron Goodwin (Chairman of Wakes Hall Management Committee), Lady Tavistock, Mr. B. Nicholls, Miss Muriel Pavlov and Mr. John Horsley, a Vice-President of the Friends of Wakes Hall.

At the same meeting, the Friends were told about a £3,000 interest-free loan, which has been offered by an anonymous benefactor. This will help towards the completion of a £9,000 extension at the Centre.

Photo by courtesy of Essex County Standard

When the "Susie" doll started walking . . .

THE life-like "Susie" doll collecting boxes for spastics, which stand outside shops and cafes all over the country, are sometimes a target for petty thieves and practical jokers.

So the manager of a Bradford supermarket acted promptly when he caught sight of his "Susie" being moved down the street from its usual place outside the shop.

With one of the assistants, he rushed out and chased the culprit. This time it was a collie dog, which had been tethered to the collecting box by a shopper.

Shropshire's third bungalow

THE vice-chairman of the Towyn Urban District Council, Councillor M. L. Vaughan, has officially opened the Shropshire Spastics Society's third holiday bungalow, Wrekin, Corbett Avenue, Towyn. Mr. Vaughan explained a special personal interest in the bungalow — the land on which it is built had once belonged to him!

Wrekin is close to the sea, close to the shops, on flat ground, and within easy reach of glorious Welsh scenery. Already it is providing holidays for severely disabled people and their families; its first season will last at least until the end of October, as will that of the Group's other two bungalows at Prestatyn.

Wrekin sleeps five and a baby. It is all electric, with wide passages and sliding doors. There are grips to the bath and lavatory, and all surfaces are easily cleaned. The bungalow cost the Shropshire Spastics Society £5,500 to build and furnish. It is already doing a wonderful job.

The Felling and District Spastic Children's Association in Northumberland has been given three children's pedal cars, repaired and painted by Newcastle and Gateshead firemen in their off-duty time.

Janet's golden day fell a bit flat!

AS spastic Janet Bentley arrived at Buckingham Palace to receive her Gold Award in the Duke of Edinburgh's scheme, one of the front wheels of her wheelchair "decided to go flat."

Janet writes an amusing account of the incident and her visit to the Palace in "Gauntlet," the magazine of the Award scheme. She says that one of the boys also arriving at the Palace to receive a Gold Award tried to pump up the wheel without success, and it was afterwards discovered that the fault was a displaced valve.

Janet, of New House Farm, Blake down, Kidderminster, cannot speak, and communicates by means of a word board. She went to London to receive the Award accompanied by Mrs. N. M. Barrett, the senior welfare officer of the Midlands Spastics Association, who had helped her to win her Gold.

It was while she was at boarding school that Janet first became interested in the scheme.

Collectors met "reluctance and rudeness" at the door

THREE sixth form girls from a school in Mill Hill, North West London, feel so strongly about their experiences as collectors for charity that they have written to their local newspaper about them.

The girls, Pat Green, Sheila Ebel, and Sylvia Withers, all 18, have made door-to-door collections over the past years for various charities, including The Spastics Society.

They say that they have met with reluctance and downright rudeness from many householders. Some have given them half-pennies, no longer legal tender, while others send children to the door to say their parents are out. Other collectors from the same school have been chased by dogs before they even reached the door.

Do other door-to-door collectors experience similar reactions? We should be interested to hear from readers on this point.

THE opening ceremony of the new Lowestoft Centre will take place on 27th June.

The foundation stone for the

centre was laid last November by the Lady Somerleyton and the opening will mark the culmination of six years' hard work by members of the Lowestoft and North East Suffolk Spastics Society.

GOOD news for wheelchair-bound readers who enjoy visiting other people's beautiful gardens. The illustrated

BITS AND PIECES by The Collector

guide "Gardens of England and Wales Open to the Public 1970," gives details of 1,200 gardens which are on view to help the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, and indicates gardens which are suitable for wheelchairs. The guide costs 4s, including postage, from National Gardens Scheme, 57 Lower Belgrave Street, London, S.W.1.

THE North Norfolk branch of the Norfolk and Norwich Spastics Association raised £900 in its first year.

This was £100 short of the

£1,000 target, it was announced at the branch's annual general meeting, but members felt it showed an encouraging response from the public.

Mr. H. G. Knight, N.A.N.S.A. group executive officer, said that few spastics groups had raised as much as this in the first year and never under such difficult circumstances.

DICKIE Henderson, Chairman of the Stars Organisation for Spastics is arranging a concert in aid of S.O.S. funds at the Odeon Cinema, Taunton, on July 19th.

MONEY changed hands at the rate of more than £1 a minute when Maryport branch of the Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness Spastics Society held a spring fair recently.

The organisers raised £101 15s. in just over 90 minutes.

The branch helps to raise funds for both Scalesceugh Hall residential Centre near Carlisle and Westways Holiday Home on the coast.

THE Deputy Mayor of Preston, Ald. Mrs. D. M. Dewhurst, attended the annual dinner of the Preston and District Spastics Group, and presented the Group with a

cheque for £50 from her Mayoral Charity Fund.

Also present at the dinner were the Chairmen of Fulwood, Garstang, Withnell, Chorley, Adlington and Longridge District Councils, plus the Mayor-elect of Preston, Ald. Mrs. R. Lytton, who has agreed to be the Group's Patron for Spastics Week.



Mr. Malcolm Race (right), Patron of Teeside Spastics Society's 1969 appeal, received a £400 cheque from Mr. Barry Brown, Chairman of Redcar Rotary Club's Community Services Committee, which raised the money for spastics. In the centre is Mr. Jack Bower, Rotary Club President. (Photo by courtesy of Evening Gazette, Middlesbrough)

How a team of experts tackle off-beat problems

AN organisation with a formidable title and a very practical approach to help for the handicapped operates in the Teeside area. A gadget to help a blind student aspiring to an engineering degree to "think solid" and take his Solid Geometry exams, another which gave a spastic girl sufficient hand and arm control to tackle writing for the first time in her life, a hoist for a former miner who was paralysed from the neck down, it's all one to R.E.M.A.P.

These initials stand for Rehabilitation Engineering Movement Advisory Panel, a voluntary body whose members work for one of this country's largest combines, I.C.I. Founder of R.E.M.A.P. is Mr. G. P. B. Johnson. He felt that the huge pool of expertise

within the combine could be used to solve the day-to-day living problems of the handicapped.

The Panel, established with the object of restoring basic mobility to the incapacitated and reducing the amount of help needed, can contact an expert in any field of specialist knowledge. By applying industrial methods to, say, the problems of lifting and putting suitable equipment into a house someone who would otherwise become hospitalised can continue to live at home.

Lower costs

R.E.M.A.P. is a voluntary body—a registered charity—with no funds at its disposal and it liaises with local authorities who, on the whole, meet the cost of the work. These costs are always lower than they would normally be, because the Panel can arrange to buy cheaply, often in kit form

and, even more important, provides time and labour free of charge.

Wide Problems

When the Panel is approached with a problem, a doctor visits to assess the pattern of movement of which the "case" is capable, and method study experts, engineers, electricians, architects, builders—even lawyers if there are legal implications—can be consulted so that a solution can be found for widely differing problems.

The small central Panel, when faced with a particularly off-beat complexity, will think "Now, who has the necessary background to tackle this?" and, from a work force of 40,000 can invariably find the man whose ingenuity will solve the current problem.

With such a large number of potential helpers, it means that the load is widely shared and a man may be asked to do

only one job. However, the Panel often finds that, once approached, their "volunteers" are eager to continue to give a helping hand. The Panel follows up, at times, with maintenance, but tries to pass this over to local authorities so that more time can be devoted to development.

Alterations

Many of the jobs undertaken are alterations to private houses to enable handicapped people to remain with their families; over-head tracking to carry a hoist between bedroom and bathroom or a chair-lift installed on the staircase. Some are quite small-scale which, nevertheless, make a huge difference to those for whom they are designed.

Tackling each job individually as they do, it seems that most problems are within R.E.M.A.P. scope but it admits that the Panel is not infallible. A heart-cry from the Society to help find a cheap shoe repair substance brought a prompt response and, in the twinkling of an eye, a laboratory demonstration was arranged to prove its effectiveness and show its simplicity of application.

Other R.E.M.A.P. teams are trying to establish themselves in other parts of the country to tackle similar jobs with a similar determination to meet with practical help the needs of the handicapped.

S.K.

Spastics Week July 5-11

Big punch-up nets £150

Chester-le-Street District Spastics Society will receive £150 as the result of a boxing tournament arranged by Pelton Fell Amateur Boxing Club at the Carousel Club, Chester-le-Street.

An auction for a football autographed by North East footballers raised £13 10s.

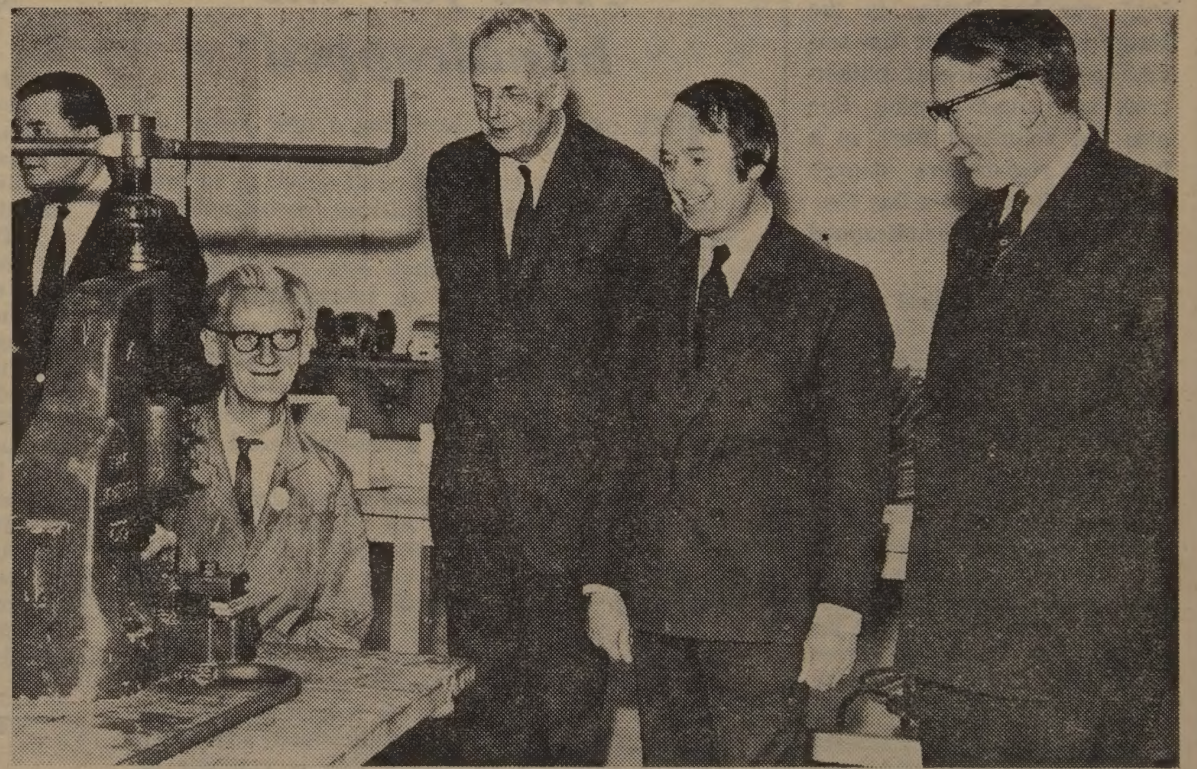
Handing over day at Basingstoke

THANKS to The Spastics Society, up to 60 handicapped people in Basingstoke and its surrounding districts will be provided with jobs. For the Society and three of its affiliated Local Groups—The Basingstoke, Winchester and Andover Spastics Societies—have provided a £36,000 work Centre for the Handicapped at Basingstoke.

As reported in last month's Spastics

News, the Centre was officially handed over to the Hampshire County Council by Lord Ashburton, Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, on behalf of The Spastics Society. It was officially received by Sir Richard Calthorpe, Chairman of Hampshire County Council.

Many of the employees at the new Work Centre will be spastics. However, it will provide jobs for handicapped people of all kinds.



Top picture: Sir Richard Calthorpe speaks after officially receiving the Work Centre on behalf of the Hampshire County Council. Picture above: Mr. Thomas Young, an employee at the Work Centre, pressing buckles for the Army. Watching him are Lord Ashburton, Mr. James Loring, Director of the Society, and Sir Richard Calthorpe.

Left: Mr. Terry Bottomley, who was disabled after a road accident, while he was serving in the R.A.F., demonstrates to Mrs. K. Lister how to make buckles for aircraft freight harnesses.



Picture top left: The Mayor and Mayoress of Basingstoke, Councillor and Mrs. Dudley A. Keep, watch Adrian Fields, of Southampton, and Bertha Garnett, of Basingstoke, coiling wire to be used in picture frames.

Picture left: Discussing one of the Work Centre's products are (left to right) Mr. F. J. Bryan Long, County Welfare Officer for Hampshire County Council; Mr. J. Hamson, Deputy County Welfare Officer; and the Rt. Rev. K. E. N. Lamplugh, Bishop of Southampton.

Spastics Week July 5-11

Kathleen gets her golden reward

THE latest group of gold medallists in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme received their certificates at Buckingham Palace in May.

Among them was Kathleen Butterworth, 19, of Leeds who was for six years a pupil at the Society's Thomas Delarue School. She is the second student from the school to gain the Award. The first was Michael Chope, who received his certificate at Buckingham Palace last year, and two others are expected to finish the course soon.

Kathleen did most of her work for the Award while still at school, in between studying for her G.C.E. (she has three 'O' levels and one 'A'). She made an expedition to the Scilly Isles, studying local history and shipwrecks and took a Bible study course as her interest. "Modern Washing" was her Design in the Home choice and for the service section she learnt mothercraft and home nursing. She also did voluntary work in a hospital registration department and helped at a Day Centre for mentally handicapped children.

"This was very hard work," she said, "And one feels one is fighting a losing battle because the children are so handicapped that they don't make much progress."

Although she enjoyed the experience, Kathleen feels that she would not like to take up this type of work permanently. She has, in fact, worked in an office since leaving school and was starting a new clerical job at the Post Office the week after the award-giving ceremony.

In her spare time, Kathleen enjoys dressmaking and reading. She also has an Invacar, which she finds a mixed blessing as it is frequently going wrong.

LAPDOG OF THE ESTABLISHMENT? NEVER, SAYS DIRECTOR

Talent at work

"We are always ready to put a stick of dynamite under any Government"

THE Spastics Society would never become the lapdog of the establishment, Mr. James Loring, the Society's Director has declared in a Press statement. He was answering a charge made by a Labour M.P. that voluntary bodies were "far too subservient to Government", because they were afraid of losing their charitable and tax exempt status.

Mr. Loring hotly denied the charge and said:

"The Spastics Society has never hesitated to speak out loudly and forcibly on issues of social reform. For instance we have been raising Cain for years on the appalling conditions that exist in many subnormality hospitals, and we have stressed time and time again the urgent need for a complete re-organisation of the system of caring for the mentally handicapped."

"We have campaigned vigorously for financial reforms to help parents caring for handicapped children and to help charities in their fund raising efforts."

"There is nothing subservient about our attitude to Government. Indeed I have

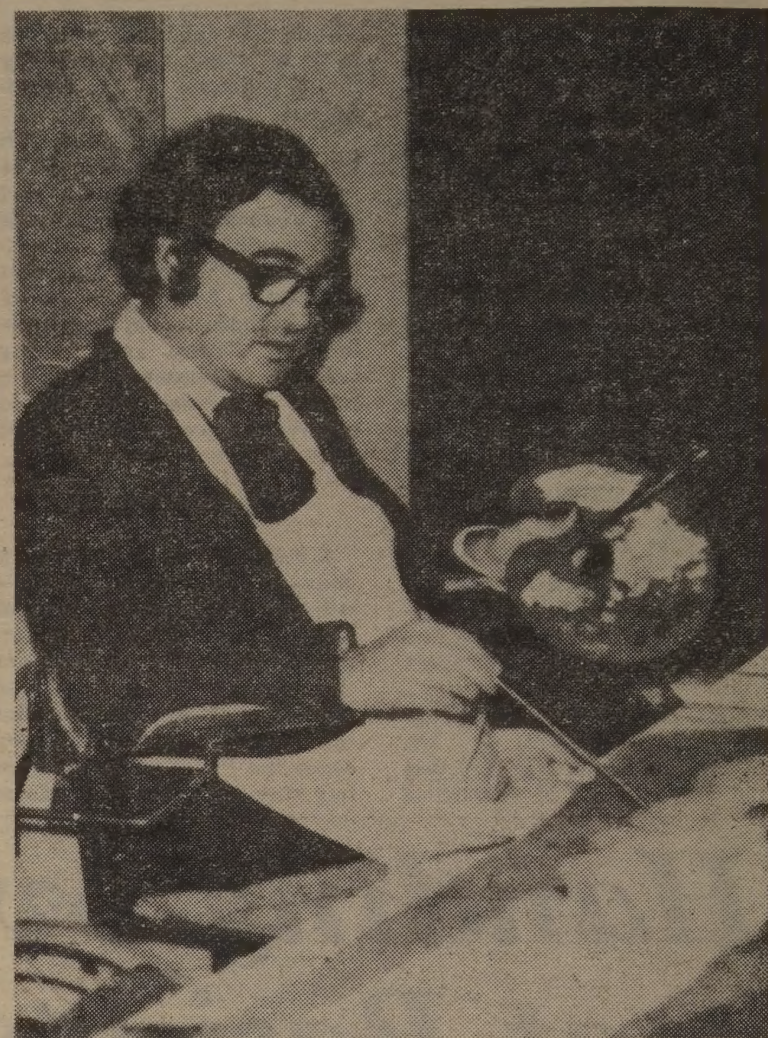
always considered it a primary function of charitable bodies to initiate and press for social reform."

Mr. Loring was referring to a statement made by Mr. Douglas Houghton, M.P. for Sowerby, and Chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, who challenged the present law re-

lating to charities which restricts them from campaigning for legislative reform.

Mr. Houghton told a conference on "The Handicapped Child and his Family," held at The Royal College of Surgeons in London, that voluntary bodies should use their independent status to express controversial views where necessary and press for changes in legislation.

Concluded Mr. Loring: "The Spastics Society and other parent protest groups are always ready to put a stick of dynamite under any Government, whenever they believe such action is necessary to focus attention on the legitimate demands of the hard-pressed handicapped."



WITH the aid of special arm rests on his wheelchair, Mr. Brian Capps-Jenner, a member of the Lowestoft Spastics Society's mobile handicraft scheme, has been able to fulfil a life-long ambition to become an artist.

He is a part-time student at the Lowestoft Art Centre, and three of his pictures

were accepted for an exhibition at the Centre. One of them, entitled "The View from my Wheelchair," depicts the tops of roofs and television aerials against the sky and vividly conveys the life of the wheelchair-bound physically handicapped.

Picture shows Mr. Capps-Jenner working at the Art Centre studio.

BETWEEN THE LINES

By Derek Lancaster-Gaye



Aids for the handicapped

THE problem of designing a new piece of hardware for the handicapped, that of devising a new environmental solution to his day to day physical limitations, or of inventing a new twist to an old established way of life, is clearly one that has considerable appeal to those with an imaginative bent.

Of course, the trouble is that so many of us seem to have the same bent. It wouldn't be so bad if we had all been able to do our thing or to invent our particular piece of hardware as part of a co-ordinated programme of work.

But this would have been quite foreign to the truly British approach. As a result there are numerous groups of enthusiastic professionals, students and others, working with zeal and a mixture of skills on much the same problems.

The alarming thing is that it seems almost certain these various pieces of research and study will produce quite different solutions. Small wonder that there is so much lack of understanding on the part of the handicapped and their families about the equipment that is available to assist them to cope in their daily lives.

Happily all this may be changed in the future with the arrival of at least a start to the co-ordination of effort in this field, an effort which

has its roots in voluntary interest—The Spastics Society's Mobile Aids Exhibition.

By the autumn of this year the Society will have ready for the road and for its first Regional tour a new mobile exhibition of aids for the handicapped. The outsize exhibition vehicle will be stocked with a wide variety of every day aids, photographs and details intended to provide information not only to the handicapped or to their families, but also to professional workers in the hospital and local authority services.

The content of the exhibition, which will make its first tour in the Home Counties, is a matter for very careful discussion with a wide range of professional interests, and will be related to the permanent exhibition now in the process of being set up in London by the Disabled Living Foundation.

The Ravensbourne College of Art which has produced a number of imaginative designs in the past is to undertake the interior design of the exhibition vehicle.

This is just one of the ways in which the Society is attempting to act, on the one hand as a filter for the many ideas that are produced in his field, and on the other, as a vehicle for the dissemination of the better and more logical practical solutions.

—and a service for the subnormal

IT is encouraging to see too, that the King Edward VII Hospital Fund for London

have made a grant to the Shirley Institute, a textile testing house, to enable it to embark on a study of clothing problems of long-stay patients in hospital.

Though the needs of the physically handicapped will be involved, it is evident that the study will be concerned principally with the diverse needs of the subnormal of all ages. More encouraging still is the fact that as great a priority is to be given to the requirements of the individual, as is to be given to the members of staff concerned with their care, and to the laundries.

Few subjects so regularly generate so much heat as that concerning how the residents of long stay institutions are clothed. The critics point to the regimentation and the sameness, the removal of the last vestige of individuality and of dignity that is brought by the eighteenth century practices still stolidly followed by so many custodians. The protagonists of these practices point in their turn to the futility and to the financial limitations which insist on relatively low priorities for such matters as clothing.

Whatever the recommendations of the Shirley Institute's study group it is clear they will be based on user requirements. As the principal user is the wearer rather than the washer, one must hope that the psychology of shape and of colour and of personal choice, where this is realistic, will have as much influence on the end product as will the ease with which the clothes may be put on and taken off.

Good idea girls

GIRLS in the fifth form at Worthing High School, Sussex, have thought up a good fund raising idea for their local spastics Centres.

The two Centres run by Worthing, Littlehampton and District Spastics Society cost over £5,000 a year to maintain, and the girls decided to raise enough money to pay one day's expenses.

The Group committee was pleased with the result and decided to put forward the idea to other organisations which have supported the Group in the past.

Appeals Chairman, Mrs. D. M. Till, said, "Even a small group of people could raise £15 with a coffee evening or bring and buy stall."

One talk led to years of help

SEVENTEEN years ago, Mr. Bill Paton, hon. secretary and one of the founders of the Swansea and District Spastic Association gave a talk about the Association's work for spastics to the ladies of the Sister Susie Knitting Club, Swansea.

The members of the club were very impressed, and pledged to give the Association all the support they could.

Latest result of the efforts of

the Club for spastics was the presentation of a cheque for £750, by Mrs. Crad Morgan, founder and convenor of the club. And accepting it on behalf of the Association was Mr. Paton, whose talk seven-
Mr. Paton, whose talk 17 years ago had such an effect.

Over £4,000

The presentation took place at Longfields, the Association's Centre for spastics and this latest gift brings the total donated since the Club "adopted" the Association to over £4,000.

The cheque was the proceeds

of a "nearly new" shop organised by the Club in High Street Swansea. Mrs. Morgan said that the sales from the shop amounted to £650, which the Club had increased to £750 by their own donation.

She added: "We are extremely happy to make this gift with our very best wishes and as a token of our continued admiration for the magnificent work you are doing at Longfields."

Acknowledging the gift, Mr. Paton said: "Year after year this wonderful band of ladies

has organised events to raise funds and has helped the cause of spastics tremendously at Swansea". With increased responsibilities and increased costs, he added, the Association's commitments now amounted to nearly £20,000 a year. The Centre catered for nearly 60 adults, adolescents and children, and the task of maintaining the excellent facilities was bound to impose a big strain on resources. Contributions like that of the Sister Susie Club gave all associated with the work "tremendous encouragement."

Playground for young adventurers

TWO pictures from the adventure playground for handicapped children in Chelsea which, as Spastics News told you last month, has been opened to provide new exciting play opportunities for children whose activities are so often limited. The playground is the first of its kind in Britain, and possibly the first in the world.

Larger picture shows the overhead track—rather like a ski-lift—which winds through the garden. Severe-

ly handicapped children can use this to move independently about the garden, dropping off where they wish.

Second picture shows part of the imaginative wooden structure which is equipped with platforms, swings and pulleys. As well as the outdoor equipment, there are indoor playrooms for both quiet and active play.

First picture by courtesy of the Daily Telegraph; second by courtesy of the Kensington Post.



Arranged and conducted by Simon — aged 15

SIMON Rattle, 15, a sixth-former at Liverpool College, has raised £150 for the Liverpool Spastic Fellowship with an orchestral concert arranged and conducted entirely by himself.

An audience of more than 300 heard Simon lead the Liverpool Symphonia Orchestra through a programme which included works by Mozart, Schubert, Vaughan Williams and Malcolm Arnold. Also featured was the first performance of a serenade by Michael Downing, a Master at Liverpool College.

The 72-piece orchestra included five members of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, two of Simon's teachers, and many other top amateur musicians.

Simon, who has played as a timpanist with the National Youth Orchestra and the Merseyside Youth Orchestra, wants to make a career as a conductor.

we said everything, rather like the saying, "Speak now or forever hold your peace."

The atmosphere went flat as Cookie disappeared out of sight. Perhaps we won't see him for a few years, but at least, we have had the pleasure of his company as a house-father at Coombe Farm.

A flying visit

by Ann B. Pearce of Coombe Farm Centre for Spastics, Croydon

"JOHN, John" came shrieks of excitement as two people in wheelchairs rammed through the doors at Heathrow Airport, followed by some more of the gang from Coombe.

John Cook had flown from Holland to London on his way to Ghana, and Val, Beth, John Peters, Stuart, Jim, Hugh and myself had zoomed up to the Airport within a hour in two cars.

We ran

The rain poured down and the darkness made it difficult to see the direction, as we ran as fast as we could for fear of missing Cookie. It was a wonder our chairs took the strain. We ran up and down kerbs, through puddles, panting and puffing. Time was precious—the longer we spent finding John the shorter time we would have with him.

The kerbs were thin so the chairs ran up and down with-

out being tipped backwards. It was cold but our running kept us warm and we shouted, "Cookie, hold the plane" as we ran faster than ever. Cars kept passing us when crossing the roads and minutes ticked by, but we kept running determined not to be defeated.

We raced through the glass doors and along the corridor as if it was a racing track, and I saw a tall, thin man in a light brown suit and white shirt. It was Cookie all right, with his well groomed black hair and a cigarette in his hand as usual.

"John, John" we shouted bombing down the long corridor towards him. People around looked up in amazement—then lit cigarettes quickly to calm their nerves. John was delighted with our greeting and kissed and hand shook with us in turn. We were still puffing and blowing from our frantic run and the suggestion of having a drink with John seemed a good idea. We talked non stop to make sure

WHEN the "Ladies" in the village of Bawtry, near Doncaster, Yorkshire, were made free in 1962, one of the attendants, Mrs. Janet Davies thought hard about all those pennies which visitors were saving.

She approached a committee member of the Sheffield and District Spastics Society and suggested that it would be a splendid idea to have a collecting box for spastics installed. The local council agreed and a "Susie" collecting doll was set up in the "Ladies" under the care of Mrs. Davies.

Ever since Mrs. Davies and the other attendants have looked after "Susie", and because the Bawtry toilets are on the old Great North Road and an essential stopping place for cars and coaches on their way to the coast, the doll has reaped a rich benefit for spastics.

In the summer season,

SOCIETY WINS A FREE PLACE IN THE SUN

THE Spastics Society's advertising agency, Spottiswoode Advertising, has won a free, whole-page advertisement in the Sun newspaper.

If the Society had to pay for the whole page it would have cost £912 15s.

The Sun invited advertising agencies to show them how powerful they could make a full page advertisement, and offered 20 pages free as prizes. Only one stipulation was made: The subject of the advertisement could be virtually anything as long as it was not a brand product.

The majority of the leading agencies submitted entries and jumped at the chance to sell causes and ideas that they believed in. There were 260 high standard entries but Spottiswoode succeeded in winning one of the free page prizes.

The copy for The Spastics Society's advertisement, with its challenging headline "Try to turn this page with your foot," begins:

"Ever thought just how adaptable the body is? Ask a spastic. He knows more than anyone. Born

Lower price for talking machine

THE Society's Supplies Officer reports that, following the remission of Purchase Tax, the Language Master, an electronic teaching aid, has been considerably reduced in price.

The machine can be used for vocabulary building and speech training for both backward children and those of normal intelligence.

The child inserts an illustrated card into the machine and listens to a spoken description recorded by the teacher. By means of a switch, the child then records the same words and compares the two versions. Various accessories and word kits are available, also blank cards for teachers wishing to devise their own programmes.

Spastics Week July 5-11

Dickie opens Norwich fair

THE Norfolk and Norwich Spastics Association ran a flourishing competition stand at the recent Norwich Trades Fair.

Carolyn Grey, Miss NA NSA, 1969-70, was on duty at the stall every day, helped by 61 girl students from the University of East Anglia, who sold programmes on a shift system, arranged to fit in with their studies.

The fair was opened by Dickie Henderson, Chairman of the Stars Organisation for Spastics, who was presented with a £100 cheque for S.O.S. Funds.

LIGHT? LIGHTER? LIGHTTEST!

The NEWTON wheelchair is the lightest of them all



INSTANTLY DETACHABLE ARMRESTS AND DRIVING WHEELS. ALL WITH AUTOMATIC LOCKS.

FOOTRESTS ARE DETACHABLE, ADJUSTABLE. NO MAINTENANCE NYLON BEARINGS. 100% GUARANTEE.

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Garretts Green Lane
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Telephone 021-783 6083

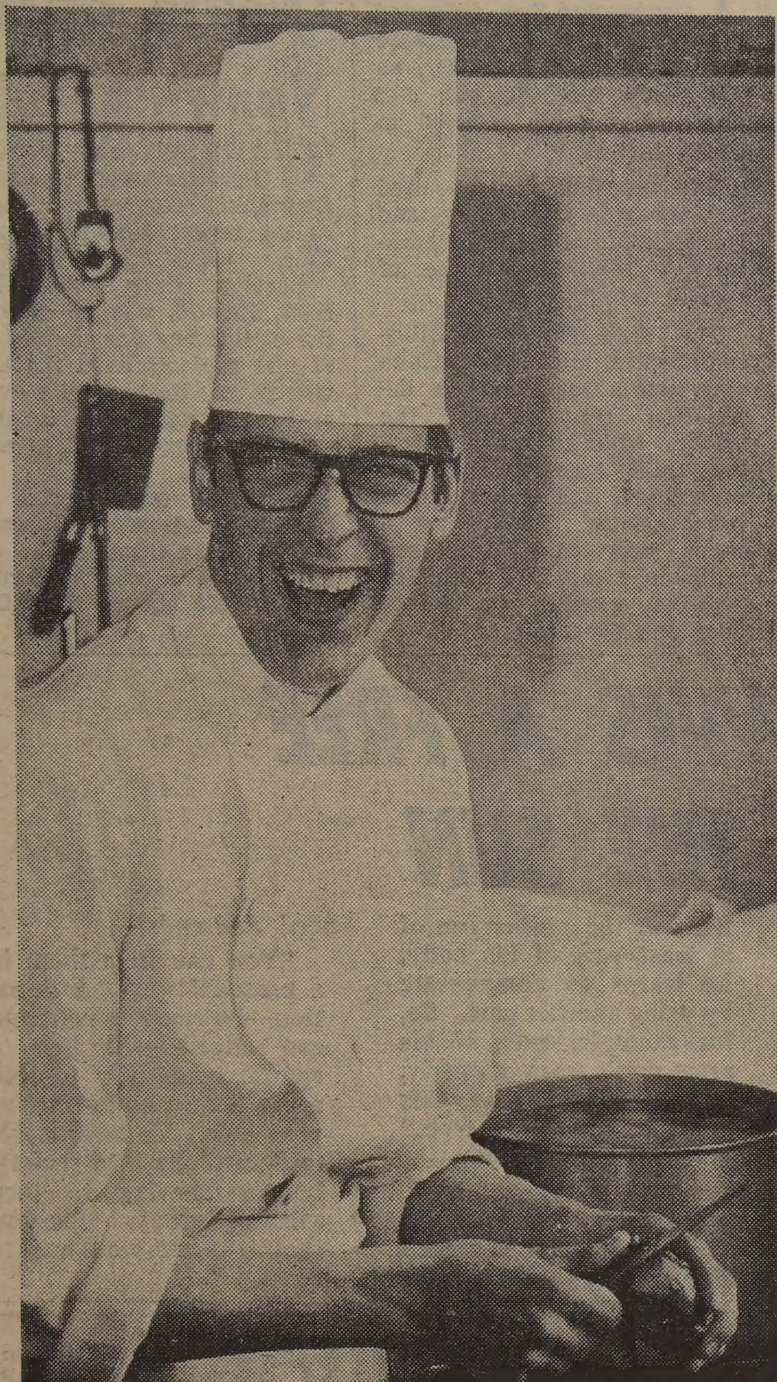
Those saved pennies in the "ladies" add up to over £1,194

"Susie" has to be emptied once a fortnight, and so far she has collected over £1,194.

Mrs. Davies, aged 69, of Gainsborough Road, Bawtry, who has three children, eight grandchildren, and one great grandchild, hopes to see the doll collect over £2,000 before she retires.

Not surprising perhaps, Mrs. Davies says that her major hobby is "helping others."

'A-1' Ken will be the Army's first spastic soldier



KEN Parker will shortly become the Army's first spastic soldier. He has signed on for nine years after being passed "A-1" at his rigorous medical examination, and will be leaving his home in Lichfield, Staffordshire, to start his basic training at the Army Catering School, Aldershot.

There was a time—just a few years ago—when Ken could not walk or feed himself, and until he was 16, he was a pupil at the Bethesda special school for physically handicapped children at Cheadle. Ken—now 18—was always determined to overcome his handicap and he persevered with exercises and speech therapy. He learned to play football and cricket, later added cycling and swimming, and now he is a keen all-round sportsman.

All the time, he nursed an ambition to join the Army, and now he can say proudly: "I was determined to join up, and the medical examination I have had to go

through proved that I am now physically fit."

Ken made history when he took the oath of allegiance at the Army Careers Information Centre in Wolverhampton. An Army spokesman said: "As far as we could find out we have never before had a spastic who has passed the rigorous medical examination before."

Says Ken, who is now working as a trainee chef at a hotel in Lichfield, and will follow the same career in the Army: "I want to get out and about in the world, meet more people and perhaps go abroad. I think the Army is a good life for this."

Picture of Ken by courtesy of the Lichfield Mercury.

On their way to National Games

SPASTIC athletes from South Wales, Devonshire, Cornwall and Somerset travelled to Taunton on Saturday (May 30) to take part in the first of The Spastics Society's Regional Games.

The Games, held at the Junior Leaders Training Regiment Grounds, Norton Manor Camp, were preliminaries to the National Spastics Games, to be held at Stoke Mandeville Stadium on July 4 and 5.

Events at the Regional Games included running races, wheelchair races, javelin, shot put, discus, club, medicine ball, and wheelchair slalom.

A special cup for the winning team was presented by Mrs. Nora Francis, of Claverton Down, near Bath. The trophy was named after her son, who is a severely handicapped spastic.

Two more Regional Games are scheduled for June 6 at the Thomas Delarue School, Tonbridge, and Harlow Wood Orthopaedic Hospital, Hansfield, Nottinghamshire. On June 13 there will be Regional Games at Keswick Hall Teachers Training College, Norwich and the Further Education Centre, Morecambe Road, Lancaster. On June 20 there will be Regional Games at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

Swimming pool is her aim

MRS. ROSINA MACEY, a housewife from Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, has collected over £20,000 for various charities over the past nine years. Now she is working hard to help the Weston-super-Mare and District Society for Spastics and the Mentally Handicapped to raise money for a £5,000 swimming pool.

Over £1,000 has been collected already and Mrs. Macey aims to enlist the help of everybody in Weston to get the project under way by 1972.



This enchanting picture—showing Wilfred Pickles and his wife, Mabel, presenting a prize to a little spastic girl—has won the premier award for the Picture of the Year taken by photographers of the East Midland Allied Press.

The picture was taken at Speech Day at The Spastics Society's Wilfred

Pickles School, Tixover Grange, Duddington, Stamford, Lincs.

The citation for the award commends the split-second timing by which the photographer, John Sandall of Peterborough, caught the characteristic smile and gesture of Wilfred Pickles, plus the delight of Mabel and the child.

Duke praises cricketers

THE Duke of Rutland has praised the Roths Amateur Cricket Club, Nottingham, for its fund-raising on behalf of spastics.

The Duke, speaking to a crowd of more than 200 when he opened a new sports ground, said the club had contributed £3,000 to the Nottingham Spastics Group over the past few years.

He added that this had been largely due to the efforts of Mr. A. Roth, Chairman of the Club.

Tom and Flicka trot off on donkeython

CORNISHMAN Tom Stephens, 66, is expected to begin his donkeython—from John O'Groats to Land's End—in aid of spastics, on June 2. He and his little grey donkey Flicka, set out by Land-Rover and horsebox on May 30 for the northern most tip of Britain.

Mr. Stephens will drive the donkey and shay all the way back—900 miles. And on the way he will collect money for the local Groups of The Spastics Society through whose territory he passes.

The journey is anticipated to take five weeks, and it's hoped that the donkey and her owner will arrive at Land's End during Spastics Week. An R.S.P.C.A. man has declared Flicka 100 per cent fit for the journey.

Fairytale ending to sad story of cancelled draw

SALISBURY and District Spastics Association hoped to raise £500 from a draw for two Cup Final tickets. But an informer "shopped" the scheme to the Football Association and the draw had to be cancelled. Now the story has had a fairytale ending.

The fairy godmother appeared in the shape of the

Southampton Bonhomie Society, whose Chairman, Mr. B. J. Davies, visited Salisbury and, in the Mayor's Parlour, presented Mrs. Joyce Smith, the Association's Chairman, with a cheque for £500.

INFORMED

Many people in the area were sickened by the action of the unknown informer who had a photostat copy made of one of the draw tickets. This was sent

to the F.A. which at once ruled that if the draw continued they would take action.

MAMMOTH TASK

As a result the Association had no option but to cancel the draw because if they had carried on the generous and well-meaning anonymous donor would have been blacklisted and would never have been able to get any more Cup Final tickets.

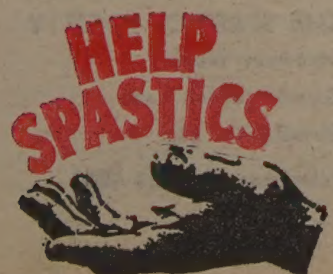
The Association was then faced with the mammoth task of returning the money which had been paid for draw tickets.

Now, thanks to the Southampton Bonhomie Society, everything has been put right and the Association has received the amount the draw would have made had it gone ahead.

The cheque for the Association was not the only one pre-

sented by Mr. Davies at the same occasion. He gave the Mayor, Mrs. Jo Benson, £500 for her appeal fund, and presented a cheque for £700 to the Salisbury and District Multiple Sclerosis Society.

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SPASTICS WEEK

JULY 5-11